APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/836,386	04/18/2001	Susumu Honma	109296	7176

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EXAMINER
EHICHIOYA, FRED I

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2162	

DATE MAILED: 10/10/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/836,386	HONMA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Fred I. Ehichioya	2162	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>07 July 2006</u>.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1 - 17</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1 - 17</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

SHAHID ALAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Claims 1 – 17 are pending in this Office Action.

2.   New claim 17 is added.

Response to Arguments

3.   Applicant's amendment to claims 13 and 15 overcome the rejection of 35 U.S.C.

112 second paragraph; therefore the rejection of claims 13 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. 112

second paragraph is hereby withdrawn.

Applicant argues:

(a)   Shimotsuji, Reuning, and Ohmori, either alone or in combination, at

least fail to discloses, teach, or suggest that "the data input form is an electronic

form that allows a user to electronically input data into information items, the

input data being stored in a database corresponding to the input form (page 8,

paragraph 4).

Examiner respectfully disagrees the applicant. Yankovich discloses the data

input form is an electronic form that allows a user to electronically input data into

information items, the input data being stored in a database corresponding to the input

form (Fig. 4 and column 3, lines 23 – 31).

(b)   Shimotsuji, Reuning, and Ohmori, either alone or in combination, at

least fail to discloses, teach, or suggest adding a keyword to the data input form

as recited in claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, and 12 (page 9, paragraph 3).

Examiner respectfully disagrees the applicant. Yankovich discloses adding a

keyword to the data input form (column 1, lines 38 – 39: "As the user inputs data into

the electronic form, displayed in a viewer (such as a Web browser) visual"; Examiner

interprets "input data" as "adding a keyword" since keyword is also a data. If a user can

inputs data into the electronic form, consequently, the user is also adding keyword to

the input form).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of

the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of

the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein

were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation

under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was

not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to

consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g)

prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

5.   Claims 1 - 12, 14 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,815,704 issued to Shigeyoshi Shimotsuji et al

(hereafter "Shimotsuji") in view of U. S. Patent 6,381,592 issued to Stephen Michael

Reuning (hereinafter "Reuning") and further in view of USPN 6,704,906 issued to

Yankovich et al (hereinafter "Yakovich").

        Regarding claim 1, Shimotsuji discloses a data input form retrieving system,

comprising:

                a recording medium including a program area, the program area including

a data input (column 2, lines 15 – 19) form retrieving program, the data input retrieving

program including (column 3, lines 32 – 35):

                a character string extracting computer unit that extracts a character string

from each of plural data input forms containing character strings (see column 1, lines 55

– 57 and column 4, lines 2 – 6).

                an extracting conditions input computer unit that inputs a condition of

extracting a specific data input form from the plural data input forms (see column 2,

lines 15 – 17);

                a data input form extracting computer unit that extracts the specific data

input form (see column 2, lines 2 – 5); and

the extracted character strings include at least one of title of the data input

form and names of the information items (column 4, lines 2 – 8: Examiner interprets

"Form A" as "Title" and "image data" is interpreted as "information items").

Shimotsuji does not explicitly teach text file or adding a keyword to the

data input form as claimed.

However, Reuning teaches text file containing the extracted character

strings in association with a corresponding data input form (see column 5, lines 43 – 49

and column 7, lines 10 – 17);

storage unit that stores the text file and the keyword (column 7, lines 10 –

13);

retrieving the character string contained in the text file from the storage

unit in accordance with the extracting condition inputted by the extracting condition input

computer unit (see column 7, lines 10 – 17).

Yankovich teaches a keyword add unit that adds a keyword inputted by a

user to each of the plural data input forms (column 1, lines 38 – 39: "As the user inputs

data into the electronic form, displayed in a viewer (such as a Web browser) visual";

Examiner interprets "input data" as "adding a keyword" since keyword is also a data. If a

user can inputs data into the electronic form, consequently, the user is also adding

keyword to the input form);

Wherein:

the data input form is an electronic form that allows a user to electronically input data into information items, the input data being stored in a database corresponding to the data input form (Fig.4 and column 3, lines 23 – 31).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the present invention to combine teaching of the cited references because Reuning's teaching of "text file containing the extracted character strings in association with a corresponding data input form" would have allowed Shimosuji's system enable users to search and "locates Internet site pages and web postings which contain operator specified keywords or Boolean combinations and then extracts all email addresses from those pages as well as linked pages" as suggested by Reuning (column 3, lines 10 - 15); The advantage is that the user is not required to conduct or observe the cumbersome, tedious, frustrating and agonizingly slow task of reviewing data contained on Internet web sites, newsgroup postings and other data sources that may exist from time to time on the net (Reuning: column 3, lines 28 – 31).

Further, Yankovich's teaching of "adding a keyword" would have allowed Shimosuji and Reuning's system to provide a Self-Directed electronic form that can guide the user to appropriate routing based on data input on the form all without interaction with a server side application as suggested by Yankovich on column 1, lines 34 – 41).

Regarding claims 2, 6 and 10, Reuning teaches wherein all the character strings contained in each of the plural data input forms are extracted (column 7, lines 10 – 17 "*character strings representative of electronic mail addresses* and saves those addresses in memory or disk storage. Presently, the electronic mailing protocol dictates that a filtering algorithm be used as follows: *extract any string of characters* that fits "space"_*@*.*_"space" where "*" is a wildcard variable representing any combination of characters").

Regarding claims 3, 7 and 11, Reuning teaches wherein a specific character string is selected out of the character strings contained in the plural data input forms (see column 7, lines 26 – 31).

Regarding claims 4, 8 and 12, Shimotsuji teaches a computer implemented data input form retrieving system, comprising:

a recording medium including a program area, the program area including a data input (column 2, lines 15 – 19) form retrieving program, the data input retrieving program including (column 3, lines 32 – 35):

a character string extracting computer unit that extracts a character string from each of plural data input forms containing character strings (see column 1, lines 55 – 57 and column 4, lines 2 – 6).

an extracting condition input computer unit that inputs a condition of

extracting a specific data input form from the plural data input forms see column 2, lines

15 – 17); and

a data input form extracting computer unit that extracts the specific data

input form by retrieving the keyword added by the keyword adding unit from the storage

unit in accordance with the extracting condition inputted by the extracting condition

computer input unit (see column 2, lines 2 – 5); and

the extracted character strings include at least one of title of the data input

form and names of the information items (column 4, lines 2 – 8: Examiner interprets

"Form A" as "Title" and "image data" is interpreted as "information items").

Shimotsuji does not explicitly teach a text file or electronic form as claimed.

Reuning teaches a text file containing the keywords extracted from the

data input form is made up when the keywords have been extracted from each of the

plural data input forms (see column 6, lines 16 – 26).

A storage unit that stores the text file and the keyword (column 7, lines 10

– 13);

Yankovich discloses a keyword adding computer unit that adds a keyword

inputted by a user or automatically generated by natural language analysis to each of

plural data input forms (column 1, lines 38 – 39: "As the user inputs data into the

electronic form, displayed in a viewer (such as a Web browser) visual"; Examiner

interprets "input data" as "adding a keyword" since keyword is also a data. If a user can

inputs data into the electronic form, consequently, the user is also adding keyword to
the input form);

Wherein:

the data input form is an electronic form that allows a user to electronically input
data into information items, the input data being stored in a database corresponding to
the data input form (Fig.4 and column 3, lines 23 – 31).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at
the time of the present invention to combine teaching of the cited references because
Reuning's teaching of "text file containing the extracted character strings in association
with a corresponding data input form" would have allowed Shimosuji's system enable
users to search and "locates Internet site pages and web postings which contain
operator specified keywords or Boolean combinations and then extracts all email
addresses from those pages as well as linked pages" as suggested by Reuning (column
3, lines 10 - 15); The advantage is that the user is not required to conduct or observe
the cumbersome, tedious, frustrating and agonizingly slow task of reviewing data
contained on Internet web sites, newsgroup postings and other data sources that may
exist from time to time on the net (Reuning: column 3, lines 28 – 31).

Further, Yankovich's teaching of "adding a keyword" would have allowed
Shimosuji and Reuning's system to provide a Self-Directed electronic form that can
guide the user to appropriate routing based on data input on the form all without
interaction with a server side application as suggested by Yankovich on column 1, lines
34 – 41).

Regarding claims 5 and 9, Shimotsuji teaches a computer implemented data

input form retrieving method, comprising:

providing a recording medium including a program area, the program area

including a data input (column 2, lines 15 – 19) form retrieving program, the data input

retrieving program (column 3, lines 32 – 35);

extracting a character string from each of plural data input forms

containing character strings (see column 3, lines 46 – 47 and column 4, lines 2 – 6);

inputting a keyword by a user (column 1, lines 35 – 36);

inputting a condition of extracting a specific data input form from the

plural data input forms (see column 6, lines 8 – 20); and

the extracted character strings include at least one of title of the data input

form and names of the information items (column 4, lines 2 – 8: Examiner interprets

"Form A" as "Title" and "image data" is interpreted as "information items").

Shimotsuji does not explicitly teach text file or adding a keyword as

claimed.

However, Reuning teaches making up a text file containing the extracted

character strings in association with a corresponding data input form (see column 5,

lines 43 – 49);

A storage unit that stores a text file representing the extracted character

strings and the keyword for each of the plural data input forms (column 7, lines 10 – 13);

and

extracting the specific data input form by retrieving the extracted character

string contained in the text file from the storage unit in accordance with the inputted

extracting condition (see column 7, lines 10 – 17).

Yankonich discloses adding the keyword to each of the plural data input

forms (column 1, lines 38 – 39: "As the user inputs data into the electronic form,

displayed in a viewer (such as a Web browser) visual"; Examiner interprets "input data"

as "adding a keyword" since keyword is also a data. If a user can inputs data into the

electronic form, consequently, the user is also adding keyword to the input form);

Wherein:

the data input form is an electronic form that allows a user to electronically

input data into information items, the input data being stored in a database

corresponding to the data input form (Fig.4 and column 3, lines 23 – 31).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing

art at the time of the present invention to combine teaching of the cited references

because Reuning's teaching of "text file containing the extracted character strings in

association with a corresponding data input form" would have allowed Shimosuji's

system enable users to search and "locates Internet site pages and web postings which

contain operator specified keywords or Boolean combinations and then extracts all

email addresses from those pages as well as linked pages" as suggested by Reuning

(column 3, lines 10 - 15); The advantage is that the user is not required to conduct or

observe the cumbersome, tedious, frustrating and agonizingly slow task of reviewing

data contained on Internet web sites, newsgroup postings and other data sources that

may exist from time to time on the net (Reuning: column 3, lines 28 – 31).

Further, Yankovich's teaching of "adding a keyword" would have allowed
Shimosuji and Reuning's system to provide a Self-Directed electronic form that can
guide the user to appropriate routing based on data input on the form all without
interaction with a server side application as suggested by Yankovich on column 1, lines
34 – 41).

Regarding claims 14 and 16, Shimotsuji teaches wherein the character string
part is a noun part or a non-sentence part (see column 1, lines 55 – 66).

6.   Claims 13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable
over Shimotsuji in view of Yankovich and further in view of U.S. Patent 5,438,682
issued to Ryohei Kumagai (hereinafter "Kumagai").

Regarding claim 13, Shimotsuji teaches a data input form retrieving system,
comprising:

a recording medium including a program area, the program area including a data
input (column 2, lines 15 – 19) form retrieving program, the data input retrieving
program including (column 3, lines 32 – 35):

a character string extracting computer unit that extracts a character string from
each of plural data input forms containing character strings in accordance with
extracting condition (see column 1, lines 55 – 57 and column 4, lines 2 – 6).

a storage unit that stores the text file and the keyword (column 1, lines 52 – 55);

and

a data input form extracting computer unit that extracts the specific data

input form by retrieving the character string extracted by the character string extracting

unit from the storage unit in accordance with the extracting condition inputted by the

extracting condition input computer unit (see column 2, lines 2 – 5); and

the extracted character strings include at least one of title of the data input form

and names of the information items (column 4, lines 2 – 8: Examiner interprets "Form A"

as "Title" and "image data" is interpreted as "information items").

Shimotsuji does not explicitly teach inputs a condition of extracting a specific data

or adding a keyword as claimed.

Kumagai teaches an extracting condition, input computer unit that inputs a

condition of extracting a specific data input from the plural data input forms (see column

3, lines 32 - 42).

Yankonich discloses a keyword add unit that adds a keyword inputted by a

user to each of the plural data input forms (column 1, lines 38 – 39: "As the user inputs

data into the electronic form, displayed in a viewer (such as a Web browser) visual";

Examiner interprets "input data" as "adding a keyword" since keyword is also a data. If a

user can inputs data into the electronic form, consequently, the user is also adding

keyword to the input form);

Wherein:

the data input form is an electronic form that allows a user to electronically

input data into information items, the input data being stored in a database

corresponding to the data input form (Fig.4 and column 3, lines 23 – 31).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing

art at the time of the present invention to combine teaching of the cited references

because Kumagai's teaching of "extracting condition, input computer unit that inputs a

condition of extracting a specific data input from the plural data input forms" would have

allowed Shimosuji's system solve the problems associated with image processing

system of wide usage; and also provides a large quantity digital processing system of

wide usage and performance as suggested by Kumagai (see Summary).

Further, Yankovich's teaching of "adding a keyword" would have allowed

Shimosuji and Reuning's system to provide a Self-Directed electronic form that can

guide the user to appropriate routing based on data input on the form all without

interaction with a server side application as suggested by Yankovich on column 1, lines

34 – 41).

Regarding claim 15, Shimotsuji teaches a computer implemented data input form retrieving method, comprising:

providing a recording medium including a program area, the program area including a data input (column 2, lines 15 – 19) form retrieving program, the data input retrieving program (column 3, lines 32 – 35);

extracting a character string from each of plural data input forms containing character strings in accordance with the extracting condition (see column 1, lines 55 – 57 and column 4, lines 2 – 6);

inputting a keyword by a user (column 1, lines 35 – 36);

storing the keyword, the extracting condition and the extracted character string (column 1, lines 52 – 55);

extracting the specific data input form by retrieving the extracted character string from the storage unit in accordance with the inputted extracting condition (see column 2, lines 15 – 17); and

the extracted character strings include at least one of title of the data input form and names of the information items (column 4, lines 2 – 8: Examiner interprets "Form A" as "Title" and "image data" is interpreted as "information items").

Shimotsuji does not inputting a condition of extracting a specific data or adding a keyword as claimed.

However, Kumagai teaches inputting a condition of extracting a specific data input form from the plural data input forms (see column 3, lines 32 - 35).

Yankonich discloses adding the keyword to each of the plural data input forms

(column 1, lines 38 – 39: "As the user inputs data into the electronic form, displayed in a

viewer (such as a Web browser) visual"; Examiner interprets "input data" as "adding a

keyword" since keyword is also a data. If a user can inputs data into the electronic form,

consequently, the user is also adding keyword to the input form);

Wherein:

the data input form is an electronic form that allows a user to electronically

input data into information items, the input data being stored in a database

corresponding to the data input form (Fig.4 and column 3, lines 23 – 31).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at

the time of the present invention to combine teaching of the cited references because

Kumagai's teaching of "inputting a condition of extracting a specific data" would have

allowed Shimosuji's system solve the problems associated with image processing

system of wide usage; and also provides a large quantity digital processing system of

wide usage and performance as suggested by Kumagai (see Summary).

Further, Yankovich's teaching of "adding a keyword" would have allowed

Shimosuji and Reuning's system to provide a Self-Directed electronic form that can

guide the user to appropriate routing based on data input on the form all without

interaction with a server side application as suggested by Yankovich on column 1, lines

34 – 41).

Regarding claim 17, Yankovich discloses electronically inputting data into the

information items (Fig.4 and column 3, lines 23 – 31).

Conclusion

7.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Fred I. Ehichioya whose telephone number is 571-272-4034. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E. Breene can be reached on 571-272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.
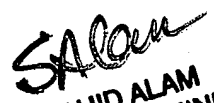
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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Fred I. Ehichioya
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2162

September 26, 2006

SHAHID ALAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER